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ENTOMOLOGY.—*A new genus and three new species of Microlepidoptera from California (Ethmiidae)*.¹ J. F. GATES CLARKE, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

The following new species and new genus are described to provide names to correspondents and to continue the arrangement and development of the National Collection.

Ethmia nadia, n. sp.

Figs. 1-1a

Alar expanse, 20-22 mm.

Labial palpus sooty black; basal segment heavily white scaled, second segment sparsely so and a narrow apical white annulus and the third segment white scaled above. Antenna sooty black with sparse white scaling on scape basally. Head sooty black with white scaling between the antennae and laterally. Thorax sordid white with four sooty-black spots placed one on each side, one anteriorly and one posteriorly; tegula sordid white with a black spot basally. Fore and hind wings blackish brown, cilia concolorous; forewing with a longitudinal white streak extending from base to end of cell where it forks, the scaling bordering the fork, black; the costal edge of the

longitudinal streak narrowly edged with black, the dorsal portion overlaid with gray; at basal fifth, in the longitudinal streak, a black spot; around termen a series of indistinct black spots. Forelegs and midlegs blackish brown; hindlegs ochereous. Abdomen, except blackish brown first segment, orange-ochereous.

Male genitalia.—As figured. The posterior edge of gnathos with a strong comb of teeth; anterior portion with strongly sclerotized lateral teeth.

Female genitalia.—Female unknown.

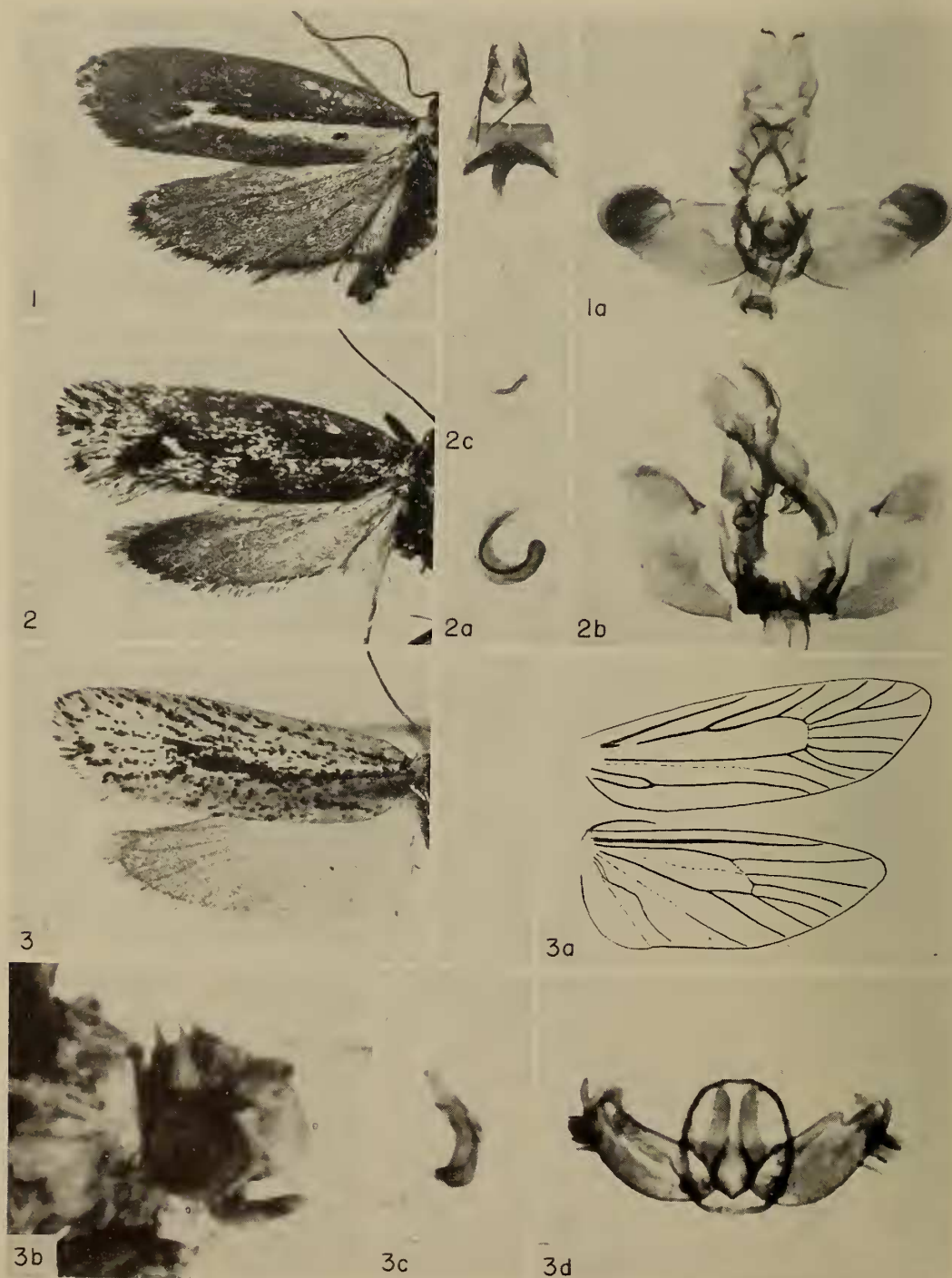
Type.—U.S.N.M. no. 59367.

Type locality.—McCloud, Calif.

Remarks.—Described from the type ♂ and two ♂ paratypes, all from the same locality (June 5, 1935, E. C. Johnston). Both paratypes in Mr. Johnston's collection.

This species is nearest to *E. albistrigella* (Walsingham) but differs from it by the wider basal portion of the longitudinal streak of the forewing and by the presence of the black spot, in the white streak, at basal fifth. The anterior portion of the gnathos of *albistrigella* is studded with small teeth which are absent in *nadia*.

¹ Received March 14, 1950.



FIGS. 1-1a.—*Ethmia nadia*, n. sp.: 1, Left wings; 1a, ventral view of male genitalia with aedeagus in situ. FIGS. 2-2c.—*Ethmia brevisiriga*, n. sp.: 2, Left wings; 2a, aedeagus, lateral aspect; 2b, ventral view of male genitalia with aedeagus removed; 2c, ventral view of female genitalia. FIGS. 3-3d. *Pseudethmia protuberans*, n. gen., n. sp.: 3, Left wings; 3a, venation of right wings; 3b, lateral aspect of head to show palpus and protruding frons; 3c, aedeagus, lateral aspect; 3d, ventral view of male genitalia with aedeagus removed.

Ethmia brevistriga, n. sp.

Figs. 2-2c

Alar expanse, 13-14 mm.

Labial palpus blackish brown, basal segment heavily overlaid with white, second and third segments sparsely irrorate with white. Antenna, head, thorax, and forewing blackish brown; head white scaled posterolaterally; tegula white distally; forewing irrorate with white, heavily so before tornus and apically; from base of wing a very narrow, white streak extends along fold to about two-fifths; at the end of cell is a conspicuous white oblique oval spot; cilia fuscous mixed with white. Hindwing fuscous with a slight brassy hue; cilia whitish fuscous with a fuscous basal band. Legs blackish brown except posterior tibia and tarsus, which are whitish fuscous. Abdomen blackish brown, tipped posteriorly with ocherous white and sparsely irrorate with white beneath.

Male genitalia.—As figured. Anterior portion of gnathos consisting of two divergent lobes, excavated on their inner surfaces.

Female genitalia.—As figured. On right side of ductus bursae, just before ostium, there is a small evagination. Signum a narrow dentate plate.

Type.—U. S. N. M. no. 59368.

Type locality.—Bodega Bay, Calif.

Remarks.—Described from the type ♂ and two ♀ paratypes all from the same locality (May 2, 1937, E. C. Johnston). The type and one ♀ paratype are in the U. S. National Museum and one paratype is in Mr. Johnston's collection.

This species falls in the *albitogata* group but lacks the light hindwing.

Pseudethmia, n. gen.

Figs. 3-3d

Typus generis.—*Pseudethmia protuberans*, n. sp.

Head with posterior ridge, frons a prominent, rounded protuberance clothed with short, compact scales; dorsal surface of head smooth scaled except for small, lateral tufts of spreading scales above eye. Antenna simple, without pecten from scape. Labial palpus short, reaching slightly beyond lower edge of frons; second segment slightly longer than first; third segment about one-fourth the length of second, porrect. Tongue well developed.

Forewing elongate, ovate, costa nearly straight, 12 veins; 1b furcate, 1c strongly preserved, 2 from near angle; 7 and 8 stalked, both to costa; 11 from middle.

Hindwing slightly broader than forewing, 8 veins; 2 distant from 3, 3 and 4 connate or short stalked, 6 and 7 parallel basally, divergent distally; discocellulars inwardly oblique between 5 and 7.

Male genitalia.—Symmetrical; harpe roughly oval, clasper absent. Anellus with lateral processes. Uncus, socii and gnathos absent.

Female genitalia.—Female unknown.

This genus is nearest *Ethmia* Hübner but easily differentiated from it by the short palpus, protruding frons and absence of the uncus and gnathos.

Pseudethmia protuberans, n. sp.

Alar expanse, 18-21 mm.

Labial palpus sordid white, second segment with a blackish fuscous apical annulus. Antenna fuscous more or less overlaid with whitish basally. Head, thorax, and forewing sordid white irrorate with blackish fuscous; thorax with a narrow median fuscous stripe; from base of forewing along fold, thence to end of cell, an irregular blackish-fuscous longitudinal streak; cilia white with a narrow pale fuscous basal band. Hindwing pale whitish fuscous, slightly darker apically; cilia whitish with a narrow, pale fuscous basal band. Legs sordid white, tarsi faintly annulated with pale fuscous. Abdomen sordid ocherous white.

Male genitalia.—As figured. Note comb of modified setae from outer surface of cucullus.

Type.—U. S. N. M. no. 59369.

Type locality.—Dixieland, Imperial County, Calif. (March 1-15, 1922. O. C. Poling).

Remarks.—Described from the type ♂ and seven ♂ paratypes as follows: California, Dixieland, Imperial County, March and April dates, 5 ♂♂; Twentynine Palms (March 18, 1941, George Mansfield), 2 ♂♂.

Paratypes in U. S. National Museum, British Museum (Natural History) and the collection of J. W. Tilden, San Jose, Calif.